Irwin Park—maintenance of—particulars regarding.

46. **Mr. A. Narayana Menon** *(Vyttila).*—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether for the maintenance of the Irwin Park, the Ernakulam Municipality contributes any share; and if so, what;

(2) who controls the maintenance and up-keep of the Park;

(3) how many peons, gardeners and other servants are attached to the institution; are any of these employees provided with liveries?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—(1) The Municipality is to contribute one-half of the cost of maintaining the parks from next year onwards.

(2) The Director of Agriculture.

(3) One maistry, 2 head gardeners, 10 gardeners and 6 watchmen are attached to the parks. They are not provided with liveries.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—Are there not peons attached to the Park?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—There are no peons there.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ആർ. ഇയ്യുണ്ണി *(Trichur South).*—ഇവ്വിൻ പാക്കിന്ന് ആകപ്പാടെ ഗവമ്മെൻറിൽനിന്ന എന്ത്ര സംഖ്യ ചിലവു ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട് എന്ന് പറയുവാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—The question was once answered on a previous occasion.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി *(Muslims).*— എത്ര കാലമായി ഇവ്വിൻ പാക്ക് പണിതിട്ട്?

Mr. President.—Since Irwin came here.

Coir making and Matting Industry—starting of.

47. **Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen** *(Kattur).*—Will the Government be pleased to state,—

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(a) whether there is not scope for improving and developing coir making and matting industry on an organised and extensive scale in the coastal regions of the State ;

(b) whether they would start one coir factory at least in any of the suitable localities?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—(a) Government consider that there is scope for the development of this industry.

(b) The matter is engaging the attention of Government.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—May I know how long has this matter been under the consideration of the Government?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—For a few months.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—May I know whether Government has done anything practical for developing this all-important industry?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—They have already provided Rs. 3500 in the budget to introduce coir industry on a co-operative basis. It is being considered by the Government.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി *(Anthikad).*— ഏതു സൊസൈറ്റികളെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചാണ് ഈ സ്കീം അലോട്ട് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—There will be a central society and under it there will be a number of societies.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Does the Government recognise that the coir industry is the main stay of the village population in this area?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—Yes. In the coastal area.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Did not the economic survey Report contain certain specific recommendations about the improvement of this industry in the coastal area?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—There were certain specific recommendations and action was being taken for the last 6 months. Statistics were being collected from the Director of Industries and Commerce and we have submitted a workable scheme to the Government.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

I think it is not more than 10 or 15 days before that it was submitted. Government have ordered that a certain amount would be provided in the budget.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—So, beyond submitting the scheme and collection of statistics you have done nothing tangible?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—In fact, we have started one society. We have a Secretary paid by the Government and he had been able to do very good work in Eriyad and the Hon'ble Member for Cranganur will testify to that fact. The society works more or less as a model coir manufacturing society. There are 3 or 4 other societies which are almost in the embryo stage. Now, what we propose to do is to rent a central godown at Mattancheri to collect these coir products from different parts of the State and find whether good markets can be available. The middleman is the stumbling block in this. He takes a larger profit out of this. It is exactly to prevent such things that Government intend to have a godown at Mattancheri.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—What is the number of persons who are employed in that one factory to which a Secretary was appointed? I want to know the extent of the relief that has been actually received.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—There are about 58 permanent people employed and they give work to random labourers numbering about 90.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—May I know the wages paid?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—150 per cent more than the ordinary rate. It comes to 3 annas 9 pies.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Does the Government think that the progress that they have made in the direction of giving relief is satisfactory?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—Government would thank the Hon'ble Member if he can give some other schemes.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Is the Government prepared to spend money? Or is it want of schemes that stands as a stumbling block in giving relief to these people?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—Government are prepared to spend money. But there should be a workable scheme.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—May I know what will be the amount that the Government is prepared to spend?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—It depends upon the availability of funds.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—There are lakhs of people in the littoral area and they have to be provided with work. What will be the amount that the Government is prepared to spend?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—If the Hon'ble Member thinks that that amount is to be distributed among the people it will be a different question. If you want to work a scheme it must be practical and Government have to organise it scientifically. It must take time.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—It is food that I am asking for; not the paper or the report or the statistics.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Government are launching upon industries like paper, rubber, cashew nut etc. Our suggestion is why not Government start a few factories for coir matting in the coastal area and reduce unemployment. We, on this side of the House, have been throwing out this suggestion ever so many times. Why not the Government kindly try to do something in that line?

Mr. President.—But the problem of the coir industry is not the problem of coir production but the problem of finding markets for its products. How can we help that? If any help from the Government is wanted, we shall be only too glad to extend our sympathies.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—In the light of the observation from the Hon'ble President may I know whether our marketing officers have engaged their attention upon coir?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—He has taken up cocoanut survey and this is also one of the items of the survey.

Mr. President.—The survey is going on now.

Mr. M. V. Cherian *(Mattancheri).*—Are the Government aware that many of the factories are going away from Cochin

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

to Travancore owing to the customs duty imposed upon raw materials?

Mr. President.—It is for using Travancore raw products.

Mr. M. V. Cherian *(Mattancherri).*—Much of the raw products were being brought from Travancore. Now, owing to the duty imposed, many of the factories are shifting to Travancore just to avoid payment of duty. No duty is charged on finished products.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—From the fact that there is no market for coir there is the possibility of giving more employment.

Mr. President.—What is to be done with the products? You will have to find markets. You will have to take the responsibility. I am afraid Government cannot take that responsibility.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur.)*—We will do it together.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Registrar of Co-operative Societies).*—It is not only the question of finding out markets. The coir that is manufactured in our State is inferior in quality that it cannot really find a market.

Mr. President.—That you should improve.

Government connection with the Cochin Textiles, Pudukkad—particulars regarding.

48. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Wadakkancheri).*—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether they have at present any connection with the Cochin Textiles at Pudukkad ;

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, how are they connected?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—(a) Yes.

(b) Government own 1,150 preference shares of Rs. 100 each. According to the conditions entered into, Government have nominated one Director on the Board of Directors of the company. They have also appointed one auditor.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know, Sir, who is the Director nominated by the Government?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly